Non Achievement of Export Targets

3869. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister o£ COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in the Hindustan Times of 18 th March, 1993 captioned "India's exports in current financial year declines" and that country's exports in US dollar terms during the first ten months of the current financial year recorded a growth rate of only 2.2 per cent as against the target of 13 per cent estimated and likely to be achieved by the Ministry of Commerce during the same period;

(b) if so, the major reasons therefore; and

(c) what concrete steps Government propose to take to increase the exports during 1993-94 as well as projections envisaged during the Eighth Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The Government is aware of the news item that appeared in 'The Hindustan Times" on March 18, 1993 under the caption "India's exports in current financial year declines".

(b) Among the reasons for slow growth in exports mention may be made of rapid fall in trade with CIS and East European countries, recession in industrially developed countries and sluggish growth in world trade.

(c) In order to increase exports in the Eighth Plan period, the Government have taken major steps for liberalisation of trade which include provision of export linked imports, reduction of import licensing, strengthening export incentives and removal of procedural irritants through simplification of Policy and procedures. In 1993-94 Budget, the system of market determined unified exchange rate has been introduced and customs and excise duties on many raw materials and capital goods have been reduced. Beside 34 commodities have been identified as 'Extreme FOCBS' -sectors aimed at value or volume increase of 30% every year, in exports.

Statement on Economic Reforms

3870. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that he has in a conference on administrative reforms organised by Confederation of Indian Industries, reportedly states that the economic reforms would not succeed unless administrative apparatus and procedures are revamped and streamlined; and

(b) if so, what measures are contemplated by Government to revamp administrative apparatus for the successful implementation of economic reforms ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) At the Seminar referred to, it was mentioned that for effective implementation of the economic policy reforms, it would be necessary to streamline and change administrative procedures and practices in various areas of the Government.

(b) Government is continuously reviewing the existing laws and procedures to bring them in line with the new economic policies of the Government.

Stoppage of GSTP to T.V. Exporters

3871. SHRI SATCHIDANANDA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Generalised System of Trade Preferences benefit has been stopped to India manufacturers or colour TVs by the exporters to East European countries; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government and the preventive action proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.